

16. A method according to claim 1, characterized by the addition of base or alkali to the polymers before and/or during heating, thereby enhancing the antimicrobial activity of the polymers.

17. A method according to claim 1, characterised in that the release of free acrolein monomer by the acrolein polymer is reduced.

18. An antimicrobial compound or composition prepared by the method of claim 1.

19. A preservation disinfectant or antiseptic or composition prepared wholly or in part by method of claim 1.

93

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